

Serial No.: 10/705,550

Attorney Docket No.: 35683.0022

**Remarks**

Favorable action on the above-identified patent application, as amended herein, is respectfully requested.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated May 26, 2004. Original claims 1-3, 7, 9-11 and 15 have been cancelled, new independent claims 19-22 added and original claims 4, 5, 8, 12, 16 and 17 amended such that claims 4-6, 8, 12-14, 16-22 are currently pending in the application. No new subject matter has been added to the application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 9, 11, 12 and 13 as being anticipated by Brink (US Patent No. 6,681,919). Claims 1, 2, 9 and 11 have been cancelled, as indicated above, and claims 12 and 13 are amended to depend from claims that are not anticipated by Brink, and accordingly it is submitted that the rejection has been overcome and allowance of the application is requested.

The Examiner objected to claims 3-8, 10 and 14-18 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, formerly objected to claims 3, 7, 10 and 15 have each been re-written in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as new claims 19, 20, 21 and 22, respectively.

The dependencies in claims 4, 5, 8, 12, 16 and 17 have been amended accordingly, and a clerical error has been corrected in line 1 of claim 12 as well.

As all of the independent claims in the application are currently directed towards subject matter that the Examiner has indicated would be allowable, it is submitted that application is in condition for allowance which is respectfully requested.


Serial No.: 10/705,550

Attorney Docket No.: 35683.0022

In view of the forgoing, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response to the Office Action has been made. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney/agent.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any fees occasioned by this Amendment to Deposit Account 08-2442 of the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
HODGSON RUSS LLP  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By:   
Rachel S. Watt  
Patent Agent  
Reg. No. 46,186

Date: August 26, 2004

HODGSON RUSS LLP  
One M&T Plaza  
Suite 2000  
Buffalo, New York 14203-2391  
Tel: (716) 856-4000